



Your invitation to accept the challenge.

Share the responsibility to prevent child abuse and neglect – join the Fairfax County

BLUE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Keeping kids safe ...

You ... Your Organization ... Can Help Prevent Child Abuse & Neglect

Exciting, new and innovative efforts to keep kids safe are underway in Fairfax, and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. The Blue Ribbon Campaign welcomes individuals and community organizations, businesses and faith communities, schools and local government – to ***share the responsibility*** to keep kids safe.

You are needed. Your organization is needed -- to make a difference in the lives of children, youth and families throughout our community. Each of us in our own way has a role to play in one of the most pressing needs of our time – support for families and the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

~ The BLUE RIBBON CAMPAIGN ~

a coalition of individuals & organizations
– community, civic, school, business, faith-based & government --
dedicated to keeping kids safe.

OUR VISION

*To create a community where each of us recognizes and acts upon
our shared responsibility to keep kids safe
by preventing child abuse and neglect.*

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

In 1982, by Presidential Proclamation, April was declared Child Abuse Prevention Month. Since that time, child abuse and neglect awareness activities have been promoted across the country during this month.

In 1989 in Virginia, the Blue Ribbon Campaign to Prevent Child Abuse had its early beginnings in a grandmother's tribute to her grandson who died as a result of abuse. She tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her car as a way to remember him and to alert her community to the tragedy of child abuse.

Today, Fairfax County's Blue Ribbon Campaign to "Keep Kids Safe" -- a public awareness effort of the Department of Family Services -- is supported by our schools, local nonprofit organizations, businesses, and child-serving County agencies.

The Blue Ribbon Mission

- Encourage community and individual involvement in recognizing and preventing child abuse and neglect
- Educate families, children, neighbors, organizations and communities on how to prevent child abuse and neglect
- Assist families in achieving healthy parenting practices through education and resources
- Empower individuals to intervene in abuse and neglect situations when appropriate.

(over)

How You Can Help Prevent Child Abuse & Neglect

- Educate yourself on the facts and causes of child abuse and neglect in Fairfax County.
- Volunteer at an organization that helps families and children.
- Mentor a child at risk of being abused or neglected.
- Take a parenting class. Invite another parent to join you.
- Give support to a mother, father or caregiver experiencing stress.
- Write letters to elected representatives in support of parent education and child abuse prevention.
- Arrange for a speaker at your organization or workplace to help educate others and spread the word about child abuse and neglect and how to keep kids safe.
- Call Child Protective Services at **703-324-7400** for advice, counseling and helpful resources – the HOTline is also a **HELP** line.

How You Can Be Part of the Blue Ribbon Campaign

- Help spread our child abuse prevention and healthy parenting messages by distributing blue ribbons and other materials to our community.
- Display a Blue Ribbon poster at your job, place of worship, school, business, etc. Call us for posters.
- Volunteer to help with the annual Blue Ribbon Campaign.
- Wear the Blue Ribbon -- especially during April (and year round) to show your support.
- Send us your ideas for how to make Fairfax County a Blue Ribbon community.
- Call for a discussion of how you can volunteer your time and expertise: 703-324-7720.
- Organize an employee "Blue Ribbon" contribution drive at your place of employment.
- Make a financial contribution to the campaign.



Imagine the Blue Ribbon displayed everywhere -- in every school, faith organization, community, business, hospital and home -- a symbol that our community is working together to keep kids safe.

WE THANK OUR CONTRIBUTORS

for their valuable time, expertise and funds on behalf of the County's

Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Programs and Services

Domino's Pizza
EDS

Fairfax County Department of Systems
Management for Human Services
Fairfax County Public Schools
First Baptist Church of Springfield

First Presbyterian Church of Annandale
Grace Presbyterian Church
Northern Virginia Stop Child Abuse Now -- SCAN
Popeye's Chicken Restaurants
St. Anthony's Catholic Church
Can we add your name here?



THE BLUE RIBBON CAMPAIGN **703-324-7720**

We welcome your support.

Alternate formats of this information is available on request; allow two weeks for processing.

